



# **Fish and Wildlife Conservation**

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

## **Dane County**



### ***County characteristics***

- 1,238 sq. mi., population 426,526 (2000 census)
- Landscape in the eastern 3/4 county is glacial plains, now farmland/urban-suburban dotted with wetland, grasslands and woodland; western 1/4 former southwest savanna, western coulee/ridges and Central Hills Sands ecological landscapes, now farmland, recreation land and residential development.
- Waters: 18 watersheds in four major drainages : Upper and Lower Rock, Wisconsin River, Sugar- Pecatonica, 37 named lakes including the "Madison Chain." There are 19 trout streams including Black Earth Creek and Mt. Vernon Creek, headwaters of high quality trout stream (36 sq. mi. of surface water total).
- 61,444 licensed anglers and 31,164 hunters and trappers live in Dane County
- Fitchburg is the site of Nevin Fish Hatchery, the oldest conservation related property in the state.



### ***State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing***

Over 14,000 acres of wildlife and fisheries land, including eight Wildlife Areas, seven Natural Areas and 12 Fisheries areas, all open to hunting, fishing and trapping. There are a number of Federal Waterfowl Production Areas in the county as well.

Our Wildlife and Fisheries lands are operated with license dollars. You can locate DNR properties for all your outdoor activities at:

[www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr\\_lands\\_mapping.html](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html)

### ***Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you***

- 1 half time Wildlife biologist, (1 half time Wildlife biologist position and 1 Wildlife technician vacant); 1 Fisheries biologist, 1 Fisheries Technician; 3 Conservation Wardens; 1 Hatchery Manager (2 technician vacancies at the hatchery), and a Regional Operations crew for habitat development, 3 Customer Service Representatives at the Madison Service Center
- Office: 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711

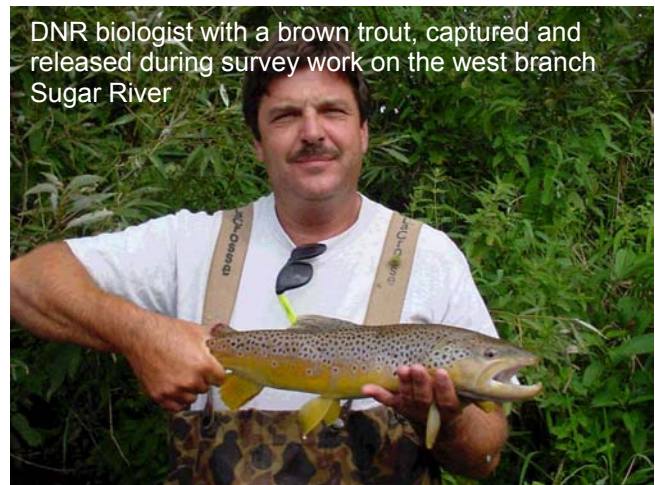
### ***Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars***

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was first discovered in Dane County in 2002. The Department is conducting an intensive effort working with hunters and landowners to reduce deer population in the Disease Eradication Zone to eliminate CWD from the county.
- In 2004, the Nevin Fish Hatchery staff raised, from spawn to fry, 576,194 trout for rearing and distribution throughout southcentral Wisconsin. They also distributed 713,560 trout eggs.
- Monitor the deer herd for CWD, including testing 2,773 deer in 2004, and 11,532 since 2002. Over 150 deer have been found with CWD in Dane County.

- In July and August 2004, Conservation Wardens monitored fishing activities on county lakes where 40 citations were issued for overbagging. Nearly \$14,000 in fines were associated with these citations and 1,400 fish were seized. Many citizen complaints generated the investigations.
- Establish and maintain grassland, oak savanna, woods and wetland habitat for waterfowl and upland wildlife species. Preserve, restore original prairie remnants on public and private lands.
- Conservation Wardens, Wildlife and Fisheries staff provide displays for two major public relations events (Madison Fishing Expo and Madison Deer and Turkey Expo) that run for three days each and attract 50,000 visitors from around the state.
- Conservation Wardens conducted audits on over 40 area taxidermists and 10 deer farms to ensure compliance with commercial wildlife laws.
- Conservation Wardens gave presentations to 36 Hunter Education classes, and provided instruction at several youth fishing and hunting events.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of ducks, geese, pheasants, grouse, deer, eagles and osprey.
- Evaluate proposed transportation and other projects for environmental impacts, mitigate damage to wildlife and habitat.

### County Conservation Snapshots

- 12 trout streams have public access
- Hunter Education courses involving 1,244 students were conducted through a cooperative effort with volunteer instructors
- 16 Deer and Turkey registration stations set up to provide four seasonal registration needs
- Wardens responded to 155 Hotline Complaints registered by citizens



### Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

#### Last year, Dane County lakes, streams and wildlife properties received:

- 2,000 wild Brook trout, 8,000 wild Brown trout, 3,000 domestic Brown trout, 4,000 Rainbow trout
- 1,500 Muskellunge fingerlings
- 150-200,000 Walleye fingerling
- 10,000 Northern Pike fingerlings, and Northern Pike 150,000 fry
- 1,250 rooster pheasants

### County Success Stories

- Over the last 30 years, thousands of acres of the prairie, wetland and savanna ecosystem have been preserved through the joint efforts of the DNR and the USFWS, providing habitat for wildlife and recreation land for the public.
- Fisheries staff has established a regionally exceptional muskellunge fishery on Lakes Monona, Wingra and Waubesa.